

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 20, 2007

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 9, 2007

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 21, 2007

SENATE BILL

No. 168

Introduced by Senator Denham

(Coauthor: Senator Wiggins)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Berryhill, DeVore, Horton,
Jeffries, Maze, Mullin, and Smyth)

February 1, 2007

An act to amend Section 56351.7 of, and to add Section 56351.10 to, the Education Code, relating to public schools.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 168, as amended, Denham. Physical education for the blind and visually impaired.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to form an advisory task force, with prescribed membership approved by the State Board of Education, to develop standards for mastery of the braille code by pupils, and required the task force to report to the Governor and the Legislature by June 30, 2004.

Existing law required the Superintendent to utilize that task force to develop standards for pupils to learn, and to achieve mastery of, the braille mathematics code as they progress through kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive. The task force was required to report to the State Board by March 1, 2006, regarding those standards.

This bill would specify that the task force be composed of no more than 15 members and that participation by the members in the task force is voluntary. *The Superintendent would be authorized to revise the*

membership of the task force to include individuals with expertise in physical education and in providing physical education instruction and services to functionally blind and visually impaired pupils.

The bill would require the Superintendent to use the advisory task force to develop guidelines as a resource for teachers of functionally blind and visually impaired pupils in the area of physical education. This bill would require the task force, by June 30, 2009, to report on the guidelines it develops to the Superintendent, the Governor, and the education committees of the ~~Assembly and the Senate~~ *Senate and the Assembly*.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature for
2 functionally blind and visually impaired pupils to have full and
3 equal access to the physical education that is part of the course of
4 study requirements meant for all pupils.

5 (b) (1) It is also the intent of the Legislature for teachers of
6 functionally blind and visually impaired pupils to have a resource
7 in the form of guidelines that include teaching strategies and
8 methods to ensure that the Physical Education Model Content
9 Standards for California Public Schools adopted by the State Board
10 of Education can be taught effectively. The guidelines also are
11 intended to include best practices of accommodation, adaptation,
12 and modification of physical education activities, so that
13 functionally blind and visually impaired pupils can be included in
14 all physical education that is part of the course of study
15 requirements meant for all pupils.

16 (2) The guidelines are intended to be directed toward classroom
17 teachers, general physical education teachers, and school
18 administrators.

19 SEC. 2. Section 56351.7 of the Education Code is amended to
20 read:

21 56351.7. (a) The Superintendent shall form an advisory task
22 force to develop standards for the mastery of the braille code as a
23 child progresses through kindergarten to grade 12, inclusive.

(b) The task force shall include, but shall not be limited to, members approved by the state board representing all of the following:

- (1) Parents of visually impaired pupils.
- (2) Teachers of visually impaired pupils.
- (3) Researchers in the field of visual impairment.
- (4) Braille experts.
- (5) Groups that advocate for the teaching of, and use of, braille.
- (6) Groups that advocate for the visually impaired.

(c) The task force shall be composed of no more than 15 members.

(d) Participation of task force members in the task force is voluntary.

(e) The Superintendent may revise the membership of the task force to include individuals with expertise in physical education and in providing physical education instruction and services to functionally blind and visually impaired pupils.

SEC. 3. Section 56351.10 is added to the Education Code, to read:

56351.10. (a) The Superintendent shall utilize the advisory task force established pursuant to Section 56351.7 to develop guidelines as a resource for teachers of functionally blind and visually impaired pupils in the area of physical education.

(b) By June 30, 2009, the task force shall report on the guidelines it develops pursuant to subdivision (a) to the Superintendent, the Governor, and the education committees of the Assembly and the Senate. ~~the Senate and the Assembly.~~